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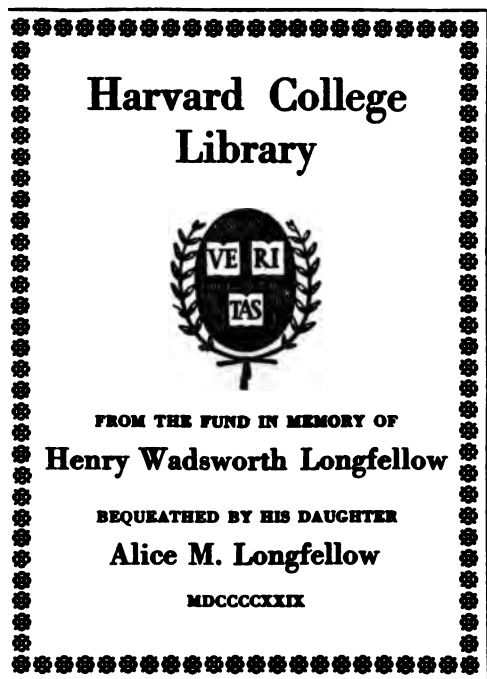
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Cover

PHILADELPHIA

AND

ROME

DI

G. DASSI



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PHILADELPHIA

&
AND

ROME,

BY

Giuseppe
G. DASSI



C MILAN

PRINTED BY G. CIVELLI

1876.

Econ 5958.76.120

1878, Nov. 29.
Gift of
Henry H. Longfellow,
Prof. in Harv. Univ.

This publication, which I crave permission to present you, as intended for distribution during the Centennial Exhibition; it, the case containing it could not be found at the time, and was covered only a few days ago.

I hope, that, notwithstanding the elapsed time, it will be still some interest, at least in the Preface, Plan for an International Exhibition in Rome (Italy), and letter, page 53, on the all-absorbing question of Labor and Capital.

*With compliments, and best wishes,
Philadelphia, Dec., 1877.*

530, Locust Street, (3d floor.)

GIUSEPPE DASSI,

Late President of Italian Commission, and Judge.

5758.76.126

1878, Nov. 29.

TO
THE ILLUSTRIOUS PHILANTHROPIST
MISS LINDA GILBERT
AND
TO MY BELOVED DAUGHTER LEONTINA
WHO
UNITED IN THOUGHT AND ACTION
HAVE UNDERTAKEN WITH NOBLE ZEAL
THE REFORMATION OF CRIMINALS
THESE FEW PAGES
ARE INSCRIBED.

PREFACE

The moral and material necessities of life are inexorable, nor can they be otherwise satisfied than by progress.

In vain the forces of Nature resist man; they are obliged to yield to the exigencies of his Liberty.

It is in response to these exigencies, that to the isolation of Nations, now succeeds Union.

Notwithstanding the barriers which yet separate them the nations grasp hands and recognise in each other the members of one common family.

The discoveries of Science have aided this *rapprochement* annihilating distance. — Mastering and using Nature in favour of humanity, they have dissipated the prejudices which darkened the minds of Nations and kept them apart.

Now the light breaks over all; penetrates and awakens the nations and prepares them for a completer civilization.

To this result the Scientific Congresses that but yesterday defied the wrath of tyrants, in order to

illuminate the path of Liberty, have contributed in an especial manner.

The International Exhibitions, coming subsequently have helped to render more efficacious the noble propaganda of Union — the first in 1851 and then the others of Paris, London and Vienna.

Now we have that of Philadelphia.

After Europe, America.

After the great, the immense.

After the giant, the Colossus.

The people of the United States honor the first Centennial of their Independence with an International Exhibition.

A grand idea worthy of the people that a hundred years ago proclaimed the imperishable rights of man and laid the foundation on which was based all the future liberal development of Europe.

Under the ægis of Liberty the action and influence of the original Colonies in America developed in so marvelous a manner as to form in a hundred years a powerful nation of almost fifty millions. The people of the United States have appealed to all Humanity and this has responded bringing to the great gathering the creations of the peculiar genius of each people.

Italy will be present.

She can not rival other nations in Industries but

she takes her place amongst the nations with wounds yet open, glorious example of two great civilizations and living promise of a third which will cause to disappear the apathy, the selfishness, the demoralization which dominate minds under the brutalising influence of money.

It is through the impulse of these principles that I present to the people of the United States the documents relative to the Italian initiative in favour of the Exhibition of Philadelphia and my project for that of Rome.

It is a salute and an augury that the Country of Mazzini and Garibaldi sends to the Country of Washington and Franklin.

Milan, March, 1876.

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

PHILADELPHIA



1876 - INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHILADELPHIA - 1876

Milan, July 1875
13, Via Monte Napoleone.

The more the difficulties of our economic conditions are revealed the more is it necessary for us to endeavour energetically to improve them extending our commercial relations and augmenting our exportations.

For this object a favourable opportunity is presented in the imminent International Exhibition at Philadelphia.

Mr Forster a member of the English Parliament and ex-Minister in the cabinet presided over by the Hon W. E. Gladstone thus spoke of the importance of this Exhibition before the Chamber of Commerce of Bradford " Truly the abuse which has been made of Universal Exhibitions has produced a reaction against the generous sentiments and the grand hopes born with that which was opened for the first in 1851: in the present case however we do not treat of the limited old world but of the unlimited new which constitutes the greatest market ever opened to European Production and to the Production of which can be discovered no limits of any kind. ,,

Can Italy be absent from such a grand re-union of men and things so favourable to her interest ?

I do not believe it notwithstanding that the Government has, for reasons of economy, decided not to intervene.

But Italy is not the land of the dead.

The Chambers of Commerce, the Agricultural Societies, the Accademies of fine Arts, the Scientific, Artistic, Manufacturing and especially Workingmen's Associations must undertake a subscription to render possible the presence of Italy at that Exhibition.

It is asserted by some by way of excuse for doing nothing that our productions cannot compete with those of other countries. — And yet we participated with applause

a few years ago in the Exhibitions at London, at Paris and at Vienna.

If such participation was for our interest then why should it not be for our interest now at Philadelphia.

On the other hand we have various products of our soil much sought after particularly from North America where they arrive after passing through two or three hands, for lack of direct commercial relations, thus leaving the greater part of the profit to foreign middlemen.

In Art certainly it will not be presumption to affirm that we can hold the field with honour equaling if not surpassing other Nations.

Besides on moral grounds there is a great lesson to be learnt from a people which rivals England, which is the greatest center in Europe of human activity, in its industrial energy.

The nation which boasts of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, Peabody and many others of the greatest men ought to be studied at home and our workingmen's societies would do well to send their Deputations to Philadelphia for such an object.

Before energetic and determined private action neither Government nor Parliament can remain indifferent.

Time to undertake it is not wanting.

The Exhibition of Philadelphia was proclaimed by a solemn Act of the Congress of the United States for the tenth day of May of the ensuing year 1876 in commemoration of the Centennial of their Independence.

The necessary capital ten millions of dollars (fifty millions of Italian Lire) was subscribed in shares of ten dollars each.

The edifices are grand.

Fairmount Park where they have been especially constructed is one of the most beautiful spots in the world.

On that solemn occasion all the productive forces of America will be united in one single point.

What a spectacle !

All nations will be represented, the different Governments having voted with liberality the necessary funds.

Nor can I persuade myself that Italy will be absent; Italy which gave, with Christopher Colombus, America to the world.

Let all men of feeling therefore unite and labor that Italy may be represented in that great Assembly of Nations convoked in emulation of work, of education, of peace, of concord and consequently of liberty.

In 1870 the Government refused to aid the Exhibitors to the Workingmen's International Exhibition at London but in consequence of my constant efforts, seconded by deserving citizens destined a steam man-of-war " Il Plebiscito „ for the gratuitous transportation to London and return of workingmen and their productions.

Could not likewise the same aid be obtained for Philadelphia?

I am of the opinion that it is possible, if the Corporations above indicated would make urgent demand on the Government and Parliament.

With the object of being likewise in the present circumstances of some use I have occupied myself with the American Exhibition holding correspondence with the Centennial Commission presided over by the Hon. Joseph R. Hawley and with the General Director A. S. Goshorn by whom I have been furnished with all the documents, instructions and designs relative to the said Exhibition.

By a letter of the twelfth instant the Director General expresses at the same time " his regret for the withdrawal of our Government and the hope that influences recently exerted upon it will result in a favourable reconsideration of the part that Italy ought to take in the Exhibition. „ The noble and friendly words of Mr. Goshorn officially deny the report current amongst us that the Centennial Commission had decided to close its edifices to our exhi-

bitors and make me believe that thanks to the assistance of the Nation and the Government the intervention of Italy in that great festival of Humanity is certain.

I shall be happy therefore to aid, disinterestedly, both here and in Philadelphia where I shall go next April our exhibitors with that little of experience acquired in these matters as member of the English Committee at the London Exhibition; as Juror in other Exhibitions and in the studies which I am continuing in regard to my project of an International Exhibition at Rome. Whilst therefore Italy prepares the convocation at Rome of all nations to celebrate the apotheosis of Liberty and Labour; let us use every possible effort to show ourselves at Philadelphia worthy of the ancient fame of Italy and her future lofty destinies.

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

COMMITTEE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL
EXHIBITION OF PHILADELPHIA

Milan, September, 1875.

The official announcement of the resolution of the Government not to intervene for reasons of economy in the Exhibition of Philadelphia had excited Artists and Manufacturers.

Through the initiative of the Societies *La Famiglia Artistica, degli Artisti e Patriotica* together with the delegates of the Society of the Permanent Exhibition of fine Arts the Artists were assembled in general meeting the 31st of July last.

After having discussed and recognized the utility of participating in the aforesaid Exhibition they elected the undersigned Committee.

Italy should be represented at Philadelphia in all that can honour her.

To aid and accomplish this object constitutes the mission of the Committee.

Even in times of disaster and trouble the Italian people showed to the world that it was a prerogative of their genius to take from nature her raw materials and give them artistic form and usefulness.

Why should it not to-day demonstrate its progress?

How could Italy leave empty the space destined for it by the American Commission in the grand edifice of Philadelphia especially in that consecrated to Art without injury to its honor and to its interests?

To prevent such an unhappy result the Committee conscious of the feebleness of its forces but confiding in the excellence of the Commission it has received appeals to the co-operation of all its fellow citizens; to Parliament supreme guardian of the dignity and of the interests of the

Country; to the Government whose high mission it is to satisfy the national moral and economical necessities; to the Independent Press constant defender of the rights of citizens; to the Chambers of Commerce, to the Accademies of fine Arts, to the Chambers of Agriculture, to the scientific, industrial and workmens Associations honored centers of the intelligence and of the productive forces of the Country.

To the patriotic and flourishing colonies in the United States, the Committee sends an affectionate salutation and an invitation to second its work. Their co-operation and wishes will be received with deference and gratitude by their mother land.

The united effort of all co-ordinated with special Committees will conduct surely to a result favorable to the general interest aiding the Government to give its moral and material assistance to the Exhibition.

There is no nobler end than the fraternization of Nations in labour and peace: Let us all endeavour to attain it.

On account of the unhappy days that are past Italy will not be in a position to compete in manufactures with nations which preceded it in liberty; but when the people of the United States already far advanced on the road of progress, explaining the advantages of the exhibition come with this sentence "We shall teach something and learn much,, Italy can and ought to present herself at the celebration of the centennial under the auspices of her recently acquired Independence and of her firm intention to reach through labour and instruction that height of civil perfection to which she is destined by the virtue of her sons.

Italy which has marked the most glorious periods of Art still produces master-pieces.

Agriculture, manufactures, commerce in general notwithstanding difficult economic conditions combat with energy and are worthy of praise and encouragement.

From this and the following article the benefits of the Philadelphia Exhibition in regard to national interests will be seen as evident; to insist more on them would be to doubt the practical sense and patriotism of our fellow countrymen which will be also in these circumstances intelligent active and effective.

The Committee

GIUSEPPE DASSI, *President*

Cav. Prof. SALVATORE MAZZA, *Vice President*

VESPASIANO BIGNAMI

LUIGI BIANCHI

Barone EUGENIO CANTONI

GIOVANNI SPERTINI.

GIACOMO CATTADORI, *Secretary.*

1776 - INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHILADELPHIA - 1876

LOMBARD SPECIAL COMMITTEE

N.° 4, Via Carlo Alberto.

Milan, November 1875.

The action begun last July in this city in favor of the Exhibition of Philadelphia was supported by the Press, by the Government, by the country in general with a favorable result superior to that which could have been hoped for considering the great difficulties arising from the lack of funds and the shortness of time.

Bologna, Modena, Florence, Leghorn, Rome, Naples were first at the work; Turin, Palermo, Messina and other cities followed their patriotic example.

A Central Committee was then constituted in Florence in union with the Ministry of Agriculture Industry and Commerce which gave to the same official support and the means to proceed with the preliminary operations of the Exhibition. The Executive Commission of the Central Committee presided over by Sig. A. Padovani undertakes the work with activity and intelligence worthy of praise.

Now that the wishes of Artists and Manufacturers are satisfied and that the Government aids the exhibitors it is their duty to correspond to the just expectations of the nation.

Statues, Paintings and in general the noble creations of fine Arts such as to honour the country, will not be wanting; but if in these consists a great part of Italian glory another very great consists in scientific and educational works, in discoveries, in inventions, in mechanical improvements, in the products of industry and agriculture.

The market of the United States besides being immense is entirely new or at least almost entirely new for Italy; whilst its most important products in their turn are little

known being imported frequently but with a falsified origin.

Some of our Producers think that having nothing new after the Exhibition of Vienna to exhibit they have no reason to present themselves at Philadelphia.

This is a grave error, as is also that other of supposing that none of our industries can compete with foreign ones; whilst instead the following products will be found to be a rich source of profit; Oils, Wines, Liquors, Cheese, Sausages, Rice, Macaroni, dried Fruits, Mustard, Tartar, Hemp, Licorice, Crude Tartar, Cream of Tartar, Porcelain, Terra cotta, Glass, Pavements, Venetian Glass, Works in Coral, in Lava, in Tortoise shell, Bronzes, Pompeian Jewelry, Venetian gold chains, Filigree work of Genova, Florentine and Roman Mosaics, Marble of Carrara, Raw and Manufactured silk, Silk goods, Genoese silk Velvets, Laces, Gloves, Linen, Paper, Colors, Chemical products etc.

We do not speak of the fine Arts because a nucleus of deserving Artists has assured its assistance: but shall occupy ourselves actively with scientific, literary, industrial and agricultural productions.

Leaving to the distinguished intellects which honour the country in the serene and multiplied fields of science what works it will be best to present to the Exhibition to which we are invited; we shall limit ourselves to calling to mind some of the most important productions of our Province which are sure of a ready sale in America. They are Raw and Worked silks, Sewing silk, Silk manufactures especially Failles black and colored, Foulards, Ribbons, Lambskin Gloves, Works in Ebony, Furniture, Paper, Colors, Chemical Products etc.

The Committee having completed the first period of its action, grateful to the effective words of the Daily Press, and to all those who supported it in the past, flatters itself of seeing maintained their valuable patronage now that it

gives its hand to the executive part of the Special Lombard Committee.

Civilization, Progress and Liberty find life and increase in the solidarity of Nations and in reciprocal knowledge of the particular intellectual and productive forces of each one of them.

The Commerce which results constitutes one of the principal bases of the moral and material well being of nations and for this reason it would be wrong besides being a great damage not to profit by the solemn fact of the Exhibition at Philadelphia in order to make known to America our importance as a laborious and productive nation.

The Committee

GIUSEPPE DASSI, *President*

Cav. Prof. SALVATORE MAZZA, *Vice-President*

VESPASIANO BIGNAMI

LUIGI BIANCHI

Barone EUGENIO CANTONI

GIOVANNI SPERTINI.

GIACOMO CATTADORI, *Secretary.*

THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL
ASSOCIATION AT THE CENTENNIAL OF PHILADELPHIA

This association at its meeting of the 14th of August at my suggestion adopted an address of friendship and congratulation to the Honourable Commission for the Centennial.

This address the work of a celebrated orator patriot Advocate Michael Cavaleri is nobly conceived.

The distinguished painter Gaetano Speluzzi with that exquisite generosity which characterises him has illuminated the address on parchment and his labour has succeeded admirably.

I believe my readers will be pleased at my reporting the address with a description of the Parchment which been sent to America.

Hon. S. I. R. Hawley President.

The Democratic political Association of Milan, assembled in solemn meeting the 14th day of August 1875 has unanimously adopted an address of congratulation and fraternity to the Honourable Commission for the Centennial.

In the name of the Universal compact of Intelligence and Labour this Association sends through you Honourable M^r President to the American People and to the grand Exhibition of Philadelphia its salutation and well wishes.

Both the American Government and People have the imperishable honour of having understood and announced to the world that Liberty is grand when beneath the banner of Intelligence it conducts Productive Energy and glorifies the thought of Nations and of Civilization.

The democratic political Association congratulating in the Commission for the Centennial the beginning of a future Era in which the basis of Liberty will be the Re-

ligion of morality, disinterestedness and merit, expresses its hope that to the intrepid valour of the new world may be added for the common benefit the immortal virtues of the old which from this our venerable Italy received the beneficent light of three civilizations, from this Italy one of whose glorious sons first touched the great continent by your fathers and by yourselves so splendidly glorified.

May the celebration of the Centennial of the Independence of the United States of America be a pledge of peace and of imperishable prosperity to the world; and may it be the Jubilee of Humanity.

We shall labour actively that Italy may not be missing from so solemn an Assembly of Nations and of Civilization.

Receive as though present our distant salutation: Viva the United States of America!

The Parchment Expresses with new designs the humanitarian conception of the address.

A Majestic figure symbolizes America holding in the right hand a table of lapislazuli on which is designed the portrait of Washington and which is inscribed with the names of Franklin, Lincoln, Peabody.

By the side stands a figure symbolical of the genius of Columbus which rests on his portrait and holds in its hands chains entwined with laurel.

At the left side of the figure representing America there is an Indian child with golden wings symbolizing the riches of the American Continent.

It stands on a Hemisphere and points to the new world and in the center to the great Atlantic.

At the sides an anchor, an oar, a compass symbolize the instruments of mariners on the night of October, 18, 1492 in which Colombus discovered the desired land.

At the feet of *America* an ancient navigation chart lies open. The foot itself marks the place of Atlantis whilst an

Overturned cup with fire near it alludes to the immense volcanic catastrophe of which Plato speaks which destroyed Atlantis and left an ocean between Europe and America.

The legend — *Libertatem Justitia sistit* — Justice consolidates Liberty — is written on the steps which lead up to the Majestic group.

In the distance the ocean is seen with the rising sun.

Three Medallions — Leonardo — Philosopher, Sculptor, Painter, Founder, Mechanic, Singer, Writer, and Poet; Beccaria who recalls with his book on Crimes and Punishments the rights of Humanity and Justice, Carlo Cattaneo who with an intrepid No initiated Italian Liberty and saved Milan from ruin; send so to say from the base of the parchment their salute to the loftier America; the volumes of Pythagoras creator of Italian Philosophy, of Plato, who with Socrates created the idea of the right and the good — of Aristotle supreme master of the Intellect and of civil Philosophy indicate to the grand figure of America the augury of her future.

The upper part of the Parchment is occupied by the Zodiac.

The arms of the United States with the traditional white headed eagle rest on a shield of the form of the 12th Century of the epoch of the Lombard league with the arms of Milan.

This symbolical illumination has been executed with all the ability which has rendered our fellow citizen Speluzzi celebrated. I am happy that such a work with the words that accompany it will attest to free America how the aspirations of Italian thought and Art complete themselves in the conception of a world Federation of which the United States constitute a glorious example and a means.

In addition to this address which I have thus described it occurred to me that some expression of interest and good will on the part of the Chambers of Commerce and the various commercial bodies of Italy to their sister organi-

zations in the United States would be eminently proper and fitting.

Acting on this impression I proposed such an address to all of the most important of the Italian Chambers of Commerce and have had the satisfaction to have my proposal meet with warm approval.

The address is now in course of signature and will be formally presented by the Italian Commission through the Chamber of Commerce of Philadelphia to the various commercial associations of the United States.

It is as follows.

To the Honorable Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade of the United States of America and for them, to the Honorable Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade of Philadelphia.

The products of the soil, of Arts, of Industries and of Commerce have always been and are one of the most natural and certain means of human progress and civilization.

Through the force of interest, little by little, to the wars which distract and divide nations succeed amicable relations, which developing alliances and affections unite the nations in Peace and Labour. Peace and Labour are the Source of all fertility and around them Productive activity unfolds itself and initiates and consolidates international relations.

In homage to these principles and from the sympathy which Italy feels for the United States the Councils of the Chambers of Commerce have decided to send their salutations and good wishes for the prosperity of the glorious Union expressing the hope that the relations and the Commercial exchanges between North America and Italy may continually increase and become more direct and intimate.

In the hope that this address of the elective bodies representing Italian Commerce and Industry, may be welcomed and appreciated at its just moral value, it is confided to the Honorable Italian Commission for the Centennial Exhibition that it may be presented in a solemn and public manner to the Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade of Philadelphia, accompanied by the most sincere felicitations for the United States of America.

(Here follow the signatures).

ROME



CORRESPONDENCE
WITH
J. SCOTT RUSSELL, ESQ. C. E.
RESPECTING A UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION
AT
R O M E
AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Florence, September, 25th, 1872.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL, ESQ.

&c. &c. &c. London.

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to inclose a letter of introduction from M^r Brodie, who is now in Italy on business connected with some important undertakings. From it you will understand the nature of the present communication.

In the course of conversation with M^r Brodie I had occasion to express my desire to consult you and your celebrated father respecting a project I formed for an international Exhibition at Rome, to be later converted into a permanent one of objects of art, he offered to bring the affair before you and I accepted his proposition with pleasure.

Without desiring to say anything of myself, which would be superfluous, I would beg, in the event of your wishing to get any further information on the subject, to refer you to the Committee of the Working men's International Exhibition London 1870, of which I am a member, and from whom you can learn all you may desire to know (1).

The following are the points on which I am anxious to have the advantage of your, and your distinguished father's knowledge and experience.

1^o My idea being to utilize the space of the Colosseum for the purpose of the exhibition, without interfering with its exterior, I should like to know in what manner you conceive that object would be best attained without at

the same time affecting injuriously that great and splendid monument of antiquity.

2° What other adjacent buildings it would be necessary to erect beyond the precincts of the ruin to contain the articles of the exhibition and more particularly the machinery.

3° What system of structure you would think most suitable and whether you are of opinion that the plan using the Colosseum, which the Municipality of Rome would be ready to concede along with the surrounding vacant space, is adapted or not for the purpose, or if you would counsel the selection of an entirely new site.

4° How much you reckon approximately ought to be the cost of such a building?

5° If you think an exhibition of the kind would pay the expenses of construction, maintenance etc.

The co-operation and support of the Italian Government of all municipal and provincial Councils, of the operative scientific and other Societies would be assured at once for an International Exhibition at Rome. I tell you this that you may reckon on it, in your calculations.

I trust to receive soon the opinion on my scheme, of yourself and of your illustrious father whom I request you kindly to submit the affair; and I trust that it will be favourable as it will have the greatest weight in Italy when all respect the integrity and admire the genius and abilities of yourself and that great man.

Hoping you will take this most interesting subject in mature consideration and that you will present my respects to your father.

I am yours faithfully.

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

GIUSEPPE DASSI, ESQ.
Florence.

Vienna, October, 12th, 1871.
Grand Hôtel.

MY DEAR SIR,

It has given me great pleasure to receive through M^r Brodie my father's and my own friend your letter informing me that the question is entertained of restoring the Colosseum at Rome to usefulness and forming it into an exhibition not of barbarous sports but of peaceful civilising educational collections. What a sight it would be and how characteristic of modern civilisation in contrast to ancient to witness a union of the representatives of science, art and industry, from all the world brought together in in peaceful harmony within the vast area of the Colosseum at Rome.

That building which I have never yet seen is the ideal of my day dreams. I have never seen it, but I am perfectly familiar with its details from an exquisite model in England made by eminent Roman Architects. It was my hope to see some day such a building erected in England. And I had contrived an iron roof to take the place of the ancient velarium without any column or visible support to interrupt the view of the exterior of the building, and thus not in any way to damage its simplicity of effect or its exquisite beauty of architecture.

It was not therefore only with real pleasure but with deep sympathy with the object you have in view that I read your letter, in reply to which I can at once say, that an iron roof can be constructed to replace the ancient velarium which shall span the entire area of the Colosseum,

so as to protect it both from sunshine and rain while perfectly admitting the necessary illumination.

That it shall stand on iron supports of its own independent of the present walls; that it will perfectly admit of that restoration being slowly and gradually accomplished if desired and this roof would have the further effect of protecting the building for the next 500 years from injury and decay, so as to transmit to our posterity this unparalleled monument of ancient days in as perfect order as if it had been entombed under the ashes of Herculaneum.

I think the area of the building might be so employed as to contain the large objects like engines and machinery, while the whole of the rest of the enormous space contained within the building itself is admirably calculated for the exhibition of smaller objects, and having calculated the entire space contained within the Colosseum when thus roofed over I find it to be as large as the whole of our International Exhibition building of 1851 in the Crystal Palace.

The only portion of the exhibition which might demand the erection of a separate temporary building might be machinery in motion, for which steam and fire are required. This could easily be done in a separate building at a moderate distance from the Colosseum.

In regard to the expenses of such a building for Exhibition I estimate the cost of converting the Colosseum into an Exhibition building at L. 240,000 which is also the price of a modern Crystal Palace, but the Paris Exhibition building cost twice as much as this.

Undertakings of this nature cannot be successfully carried through except under the direction and with guarantee of the Government. Private speculation in such matters entirely fails; of this you can see unquestionable proofs in the neighbourhood of Paris where a large Crystal Palace, was undertaken, and half built, by a private company in the hope of its being used successfully for an

Exhibition of all nations; but in the end the French Government was compelled to adopt its own building for the Exhibition of 1867 and the half completed Palace remains as a warning to private speculators not to undertake for their private interests matters which should be done solely for the public good and by the Government as representatives of the public well being.

Nevertheless I have no doubt that in the end, if the Government undertake the work, guarantee the expenses and carry it through economically and wisely by a royal Commission it will succeed as well as our first Exhibition of 1851 succeeded, which left over and above its expenses, after paying for the Crystal Palace, a sum of more than L. 100,000.

Should you succeed in getting the authority power and pecuniary guarantee of your Government for this undertaking, I should be quite ready to come to Rome, to prepare the plans, and to superintend the execution of the work. This work it will be possible to execute within a period of 24 Months, but you ought not on any account to allow less than this time.

In conclusion allow me to say one word of encouragement to you in this great undertaking. You will have great difficulties to overcome, because thousands of people can find out difficulties who cannot also find out the way of overcoming them. I have been already told by great authorities that it would ruin the architecture of the Colosseum to cover it over with a roof where-as I know that in ancient times it was so covered over, only that the covering was called not a roof but a Velarium. Next I have been told that it would injure the building, if a roof were to rest on it. This I overcome by not resting the roof on it, neither do I rest it on pillars outside the building which would interfere with its appearance, neither do I put pillars on the inside which would interfere with the view.

It is a curious coincidence and it may interest you to know that the dimensions of your proposed roof and the quantity of iron in it are almost exactly those of the Great Eastern Steamship.

Hoping you will have courage to do this, I remain sincerely and sympathetically.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL, ESQ.
&c. &c. &c.
Vienna.

Florence, November, 2nd, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have to thank you for the interesting, I would say admirable, answer you have sent to my letter of the 25th September.

That you should have responded to my questions I might have expected, but that you should enter as fully as you have done into my views, that you should have felt the artistic, the historic value of the proposition, the wonderful associations it is calculated to awaken was more than I looked for, and on which I can only congratulate myself.

It is true that I, perhaps, forgot the illustrious stock from which you are derived; that I remembered the name of your distinguished father rather in connection with simply practical objects, than with more ennobling though less generally appreciated, subjects of study; but for having done so I can only plead the character of the age we live in and confess my error in supposing that you who have been brought up at the feet of one whose early years were spent in the investigation of subjects of a purely scientific character and whose later ones have been passed in endeavouring to ameliorate the lot of his fellow man, could fail to appreciate at its real value such an idea as that I have had the honour to bring to your notice.

Your answer has confirmed me in my conception of the adaptability to the congenial purpose of an International Industrial Exhibition, of the splendid ruins of the Colosseum; whilst the feasibility of their being employed to this effect and at the same time preserving their original character intact, as shown by you, has met with the appro-

bation of all the distinguished personages to whom I communicated the contents of your letter.

Fortified by the favourable opinion of yourself and of your distinguished father, whose name is a household word throughout Europe, I laid my scheme along with that opinion before some of the highest authorities in this country, who have given it their unqualified approval. To this happy result your arguments as to the restoration of the ancient velarium have in a great measure contributed.

The amount at which you estimate the cost for the conversion of the Colosseum into an Industrial Exhibition, firstly and later to a permanent one of works of art is not, I find, considered as by any means too large. What you say further as to making it a national undertaking not a private speculation, coincides as well with my own opinions as with that of those Gentlemen whom I have consulted on the subject. It is clear that an affair of such importance ought only to be considered in its larger aspect as concerning the nation and without reference to views of ulterior gain, and this is the ground my friends take.

I proposed and they offer to get from the government a yearly subvention of 500,000 francs sufficient to pay at once 6 per cent interest on the Capital engaged and to furnish besides, a sinking fund for extinguishing the debt in 25 years. That the entrance money collected would more than cover this yearly amount is not to be doubted and the surplus might certainly be employed to its more early repayment. The difficulty now exists as to how this revenue can be capitalised and for this I must, again, have recourse to your experience and knowledge to inform me in what manner this can be best done.

In fact I would ask whether you could not, perhaps, carry out this affair yourself both as regards construction and financing on the terms I have stated? You will excuse me putting the business in this abrupt form, but your past

kindness emboldens to trust to your receiving what I now say in the spirit in which it is written.

Before concluding I should like to remark the intense interest with which we, of the liberal party in Italy, have been reading the accounts in the newspapers of your noble father's struggles for the amelioration of the lot of the working classes, and how we earnestly hope that endeavours to secure so glorious an object as to give to labour its just recompense, to put an end to the sad mistakes of past ages, to abolish the horrid scourge of war and to attain the great aim of all proper Government the greatest good to the greatest number, may be crowned with the success it merits. Myself founder of some of the operative Societies in this country and perpetual Honorary Vice-President of most of them, the question is to me one of paramount importance as I see in it the only hope for solution of the difficulties which are now looming on our political horizon.

May I request you to add to your past kindness by answering me as soon, as you can, and to present my best respects to your father, whilst believing me to be.

Your ever most faithfully

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

Vienna, Monday, Nov. 6th, 1871.
11. Maxamilian Strasse, I Stadt.

GIUSEPPE DASSI, ESQ.
Florence.

MY DEAR SIR,

Your most interesting letter to Mr Scott Russell arrived here unfortunately too late to find him still in Vienna. His movements are a little uncertain for the next week or two. But after that he will be in London where he remains to continue what you most justly call, "his noble struggles for the working classes.,"

He remains in London for two months and then returns here. As he has left me here in charge of his works and correspondence, and as I am of course unable to answer of myself the financial questions contained in your letter, my sole object in writing this to you is to prevent your feeling surprised or disappointed if no answer comes to you before, — say — a fortnight.

I have forwarded your letter to Mr Scott Russell in London, but I do not think he can get it before a week's time. I must inform you that it was Mr Scott Russell senior himself who answered your previous letter and not his son. His son's name is Norman and he resides at present in St Petersburg.

I remain, dear Sir, wishing you and your project all possible success. Yours very faithfully

GEORGE C. V. HOLMES.
Civil Engineer.

Florence, November, 15th, 1871.

GEORGE C. V. HOLMES, Esq. C. E.

Vienna.

MY DEAR SIR,

Many thanks for your kind letter which reached me here yesterday. I was sorry to learn by it that Mr Scott Russell had left Vienna, from the interested motive of having my answer delayed, but whilst thus grieved for myself I felt happy to learn what you say that he is to remain for some time in London to continue those recent labours for the good of humanity which cast a fresh luster round a name already distinguished.

Believe me, that in Italy the patriotic and liberal party watch with interest the solution of great political questions now agitated in England and in which Mr Scott Russell is taking so prominent a part.

They consider the peace of the world, the welfare of mankind, as depending on the issue; and though here from the happy accidents of a fruitful soil, a genial climate, and a slender population; the pressing wants of the working classes have not yet made this country the theatre of political passions, such as disturb the rest of Europe all enlightened men properly consider that they are only delayed and must rise to the surface with the time. There is an old adage, "prevention is better than cure," the truth of which is generally admitted.

Acting on it, we Italians look to the remedies applied in other countries already sick to determine the system of hygiene which ought to be adopted in ours, as a prophylactic, instead of waiting till the disease shall have developed itself to commence a treatment.

I sent to Mr Scott Russell a pamphlet and some other documents which I trust have reached you safely.

Excuse my troubling you on this subject, your own kindness is the sole cause of my venturing to do so.

I am, Dear Sir, your most faithfully

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

GIUSEPPE DASSI, ESQ.
Florence.

London, November, 13th, 1871.
Westwood Lodge
Sydenham, near London.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have read with great pleasure your letter of the 13th November from Florence in which you kindly express the approbation which has been given to my plans of protecting, preserving and utilising the Coliseum at Rome in conformity with your proposal and requirements.

I have also read with pleasure the letter which you enclosed describing the plans for providing the financial resources of the undertaking by means of 6,000,000 francs debentures guaranteed by the Government which I consider to be a prudent, economical and wise mode of obtaining the capital. I am no financier and I should have upon my shoulders sufficient responsibility if I prepare the plans and organise the execution of the work, but I think I could manage thus far to be of use. That if your Italian Bankers do not conveniently and economically find you all the capital I may be able to arrange that the constructors of the building shall take a portion of their payment in these guaranteed debentures.

What I will also guarantee is that the building shall not cost more than the sum I have named, as the contracts that have just been completed for the execution of the Vienna building are somewhat under the estimate I gave in.

In regard to plans of the works you will readily understand that I cannot venture to prepare plans for practical execution until I have carefully examined the Coliseum as it now stands, fortunately I have here at

hand a perfect model of restored Coliseum, prepared originally by my direction as one of the founders of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham and executed at Rome: and this model I shall use at present for my preliminary design.

When you shall consider the matter sufficiently far advanced for me to prepare the plans for practical execution be good enough to let me know as long as possible beforehand when and how you would wish me to visit Rome. For the present my time is disposed as follows. Till the end of December I am here, in the vicinity of London, during January and February I shall be in Vienna.

I shall be glad to hear of your further progress and you may rest assured of my cordial sympathy and zeal in your great undertaking.

I thank you very much for your sympathy with me in my endeavour to reconcile the discordant elements and separated classes of English Society into one cordially united patriotic body cooperating for the well-being and well-doing of the community. It is a great pleasure to have the approval of one who has himself made sacrifices for his country and his countrymen. (2).

Accept, my Dear Sir, the assurance of my distinguished regard, and believe me to remain, sincerely yours.

JOHN SCOTT RUSSELL.

J. SCOTT RUSSEL, ESQ.
London.

Florence, November, 27th, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR,

Your kind letter of the 13th inst. has afforded the greatest pleasure not only to me but to all those gentlemen to whom I have shown it and who have equally at heart the utilisation, for international purposes, of the glorious ruins of the Colosseum.

The interest you have taken in this affair gives one more proof that men of science and art do not regard the limits by which territories are bounded but embrace all humanity as one family and afford good reason for hoping that with the spread of instruction those wars which have hitherto devastated the world will become impossible in future.

To secure this most desirable end no means can be more proper than bringing together men of different countries at Industrial Exhibitions teaching them that it is rather in the nobler struggles of peaceful industry and scientific research that their energies may be profitably employed than in vain endeavours for National supremacy.

As I stated in a previous letter the advantages derived from the favourable opinion you express of the project, as emanating from one whose scientific and practical knowledge, it is no flattery to say, are universally recognised, secure to it the support of our more patriotic statesmen; whilst the means you propose for solving the financial questions are judged as being most perfectly suited to meet the exigencies of the case.

I have already taken the proper steps for having the matter brought under due consideration, and I do not in the least, doubt of being able to conduct it to a favourable

issue: all affairs of the kind, however, require a certain degree of time to succeed. They must not be precipitated nor yet allowed to slumber. The present moment, when the Capital has been just removed to Rome, is, in one sense most propitious, but the embarrassments which have arisen in the different departments of the Government from the necessities of a fresh installation throw many grave difficulties in the way of the regular course of business. I state the above to show that though delays may take place they need give no apprehensions as to the result. All the scientific, industrial, and operative Societies in the kingdom are anxiously awaiting further particulars from me. We are assured of their fullest support.

I have satisfied myself that a great portion of the required capital can be found here under the conditions you propose of contractors accepting the remainder in guaranteed debentures.

Might I venture to suggest that a rough sketch giving a general idea of the structure would greatly facilitate negotiations and strengthen immensely the hands of our friends?

You may depend on my writing to keep you regularly informed of how affairs go on here as also to ask your valuable counsel, and I do not doubt that I shall soon have the pleasure to announce favourable news.

In a separate letter, as being well worthy of separate treatment, I shall endeavour to convey to you some idea of the interest excited amongst the most enlightened politicians of this country by your account of the noble part you took in endeavouring to bring about a fair understanding between the employers on the one hand, the employed on the other.

Believe me, your labours are appreciated here. The solution of the great problem how to conciliate the differences and blend into one harmonious whole the discordant elements of English Society affects us as nearly as it does you for it is to you in England that we in Italy

look for counsels to avoid the evils which are shaking Europe generally to its foundations. It is probable that I may have to visit London soon when I shall do myself the honour of calling on you.

Believe me to be, with many thanks.

Yours most faithfully

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

GIUSEPPE DASSI, Esq.

Florence.

Westwood Lodge — Sydenham

9th, December, 1871.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am glad to learn that you think the financial part of your plan is satisfactory to your friends and the amount of co-operation which I could find for you here in the manner proposed is considered sufficient. I quite agree with you that the progress of such a national undertaking need not be rapid and I shall be quite content if it be gradual and certain.

I could not venture to give you even the rudest sketch of the proposed building until I myself have examined the Colosseum in its present state and looked at it from all the chief points of view in the surrounding City. The reason is, that although I have perfectly determined the principle on which alone an iron roof for the building can be constructed and supported so as to leave the whole interior free from any visible column and the whole exterior free from any interruption of the view of the building or any disturbance of the harmony of its outlines, yet I can so modify the arrangement of the parts and so alter its general appearance when I know all the conditions and requirements of the case that I cannot venture to decide on which form it will assume until everything else has been determined.

Will you therefore now assist me by getting all the information on the various points I am now about to submit to you?

I. What do your artists and architects think and wish and what do you yourself propose in regard to the degree of restoration of the building. I have taken the opinion of our greatest architectural authority. He tells me one

third about of the outer wall of the Colosseum remains entire; that one third has entirely disappeared and that one third is partly destroyed. What would be the Roman opinion as to the question of restoring any part of this outward wall? or the whole of it? that of course would be a slow process. But that question I want decided before, I can decide on any design. If you decide that the outside wall shall be restored completely, that will at once decide me that I must so arrange the supports of my roof in the place where at present there is no outer wall, that when that wall is rebuilt my iron columns of support shall be enclosed within the masonry of the building so as to be invisible either to the spectator within the arena.

II. I wish that you and your friends would also consider for me whether you would or would not permit that the roof should rise above the level of present highest wall so as to be visible from the outside, or whether you place great value on the roof being so nearly flat as to be from the outside, in the vicinity, invisible.

III. Will you also consider whether you would like the light to enter the building through one large central opening in the roof, or through a continuous ring of openings all round the outer iron ring? In both cases these opening being glazed.

IV. Please give me your ideas as to the use to which you wish to appropriate the arena and how you mean to utilise the stone benches all round.

In discussing these matters with your friends pray give them to understand that their judgment on these points may be entirely disembarassed of any consideration for me, or any supposed difficulties in my iron building. I wish you only to consider what is best, grandest, most useful and most wise to the preservation of this greatest monument of Roman genius. All the difficulties of execution I will cheerfully take upon myself and I will compel my iron work to do exactly what is best for you.

I have been studying here the exquisite model which was constructed for the Crystal Palace Committee of which I was a member. It is a complete restoration of the original Colosseum. That model shows how the Romans in using the amphitheatre covered it from the sun with a velarium, what I shall take care of (if you so decide) is that the iron roof shall occupy the place of the ancient velarium and so harmonise with the general character of the building.

I hope soon to receive your answer so that I may proceed with my plans.

And I beg to remain.

Dear Sir,

Very sincerely yours,

J. SCOTT RUSSELL.

Florence, December, 17th, 1871.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL, Esq.
London.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your kind and valuable letter of 9th instant I shall not attempt to answer it until I have been to Rome where I intend proceeding this week, and got the opinion and advice of all the most influential and technically skilled persons on the points you have put forward.

You may therefore expect to hear from me in the course of short time with categorical answers to all your questions along with such other information as may appear proper to forward our joint object of creating a great future exhibition in the Colosseum.

Believe me, to be.

Yours ever faithfully

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

Florence, March, 20th, 1872.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL, ESQ.
Vienna.

It is now several months since I wrote to you on the subject we both have much at heart and which as I have often stated is the aspiration of my countrymen, the conversion of the greatest monument of Rome's ancient grandeur the Colosseum into a monument of her present restoration.

I have delayed doing so till now to allow the Parliament to conclude its discussions on the finances of the country before bringing the project publicly forward, for the double object of securing a free and unbiassed discussion of so important a subject.

I am sure you will appreciate the motives which have actuated my friends and myself; and understand that our apparent negligence and my consequent silence have arisen not from any want of zeal, but are the results of a conduct maturely considered with the sole object of securing at the opportune moment a triumphant and speedy success.

The great interest you take in the affair, the knowledge you have of it in detail, and the scientific opinion you have given of the facility of its execution as emanating from you have immensely lightened our task.

All interested in its execution commission me to thank you and be sure that later when carried out you will not only have the thanks of all the community; but will have added one more to the many great works to which your name is attached to be handed down to Posterity.

Had my late lamented friend Mazzini still lived it would have given to no one more pleasure than to him to have added his influence to advance our labours. He alas! is no more and Italy laments the loss of a patriot who lived not only for his own Country but for the good of mankind

generally. The seed he has sown will not, however, lie sterile in the ground as the great manifestations in all the leading Cities of the kingdom in honour of his name show; and the self sacrificing life of Joseph Mazzini will yet bear good fruits for all, will, in fact, bring about now he is no more, the realization of that for which he laboured incessantly when living.

I know that between spirits of congenial temperament there always exists a bond of sympathy no matter how different may be the methods by which they desire to attain the common object they have in view; and I feel sure that you will, therefore, appreciate the slight tribute I have felt bound to pay to the name of my deceased friend.

Trusting that you will not lose heart from the inevitable delays that have taken place, feeling confident no effort will be spared on our part to push matters on.

I have the honour to be,

Yours Ever most faithfully

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

Florence, March, 20th, 1872.

J. SCOTT RUSSELL, ESQ.
Vienna.

I promised some time since to write on the impression produced in this country by your published correspondence and the English Newspaper accounts respecting proceedings taken by you and proposals made with a view to an amicable arrangement of the most difficult question of the day. — The relation between Capital and Labour — a question in the attempted solution of which you have taken so prominent and so patriotic a part. My promise might have been easily long since fulfilled had I chosen to satisfy myself with the reports of the daily prints but I have been desirous of conveying the true opinion of the people and have delayed accordingly.

The labour question has agitated the world from the earliest periods. Each successive age has modified its conditions. The working classes have been used in all countries as the lever by which alternate factions have succeeded in overturning the established order of governments, to be only thrown aside so soon as the object was obtained. Flattered at one time, scorned the next they have ever been oppressed. It remains for the civilization of the nineteenth Century to initiate another system and by according to the workman the just retribution of his work and the security of its enjoyment, to inaugurate a new political era when the different classes of society, instead of being arrayed in opposition camps as now shall become one united patriotic body working harmoniously together for the common good of all. Enlightened politicians universally acknowledge the justness of this proposition and earnestly desire to see it carried into execution. They differ only as to the means by which it is to be effected. some can discover no method of accomplishing it except

by force; whilst others, such as you, with whom I entirely coincide, and whose opinions find an echo in the breasts of the greater part of Italian patriots, trust to succeed by appealing to the calm reason and self interest of mankind.

This must, of course, be an affair of time, but the great point is to commence by laying the foundations for future reforms, resting satisfied that the impulse once given they will gradually, imperceptibly, yet certainly be adopted without any violent shock being given.

Taken from this point of view I, and, indeed, all those persons with whom I have spoken or had correspondence, have been struck by the tenour of the proposals contained in your letter of the 11th november last. They have been widely canvassed here and their excellence more or less appreciated.

Comfortable and healthy dwellings, proper and nutritious food for the working classes are, irrespective of all humanitarian considerations, subjects of the highest importance whose settlement must effect the well being of the whole Community, as productive labour is naturally regulated by the conditions in which the producers are placed. To secure those benefits for the people is one of the highest objects of legislation. They must, however, be committed to local administration by the fullest possible liberty both of action and representation to meet the wants of the people who must be properly educated by systematic scientific teaching and must have time to pursue their studies; and in this connection Public Parks, Institutions for instruction, recreation and amusement will play a most conspicuous part.

The adequate organisation of the public good is a point about which there can be only one opinion.

I have gone thus more or less regularly through the different heads of your proposal and I have endeavoured to convey as succinctly as possible the idea of them held in Italy. They are, even at this moment, demanded here

and being foundeded on principles of eternal justice and truth are applicable to all situations and countries. The manner in which you have sought to bring about their adoption though more particularly adapted to English society has further met with unqualified approval, for whatever the internal organisation it is clear that an amicable understanding can only be arrived at by bringing the different classes together to discuss in calm humour their different wants. It is true that here actual poverty may be said hardly to exist. The daily increase, however, of National wealth and its possession by a limited number of persons will with time inevitably introduce it to the Country unless preventive measures are adopted in time. This may at first sight appear a paradox, but on consideration it will be evident that with the increase of wealth the relative value of money must decrease thereby causing a relative rise in the price of the necessaries of life; and the natural tendency of wealth being to accumulate in the hands of the few prevent the remuneration of labour from rising in a relative proportion.

National wealth is the result of labour whether of the head or of the body and consists in that stored up portion of labour which is in excess of what is required to meet the daily exigencies of life. Capital or money is the representative of that wealth. The land with its multifarious power of production is comparatively valueless until its latent energies have been developed by human industry; but in the race of life this great fact has been universally overlooked and the producers have been the last to participate in the fruits of their toil. Accidents of a political nature led in remote ages to the enslaving of the many for the benefit of the few and though for centuries gradual changes have in most countries rendered to the working classes their civil freedom there yet remains the taint of bygone times in the exceptional privileges accorded to capital (wealth) at the expense of labour.

The state, to use the common term employed to convey the idea of a society of individuals formed for the purposes of mutual protection, imposes certain conditions in return for the security it affords. It is under those conditions that each citizen is assured the enjoyment of his property. Land is held by the owner not for his own good alone but for that of the community also and the landed proprietor has his rights limited and circumscribed by laws which, however faulty, impose on him duties as well towards the cultivator. Capital ought to be equally responsible to the state. There are, it is true, much greater difficulties surrounding this question than the first: but now that so-called capital has become a real power no difficulties can be allowed longer to delay its solution. It must not, however, be forgotten that labour is in itself as much the capital (the wealth) of the workman, as is money the capital of the rich. Labour, consequently, owes its duties to the state; but labour has just as good a right to demand protection as the wealth which employs it.

Up to the present time labour whilst subjected to conditions still more severe than other and acknowledged property has been placed at the mercy of capital; and the possessors of capital overlooking, in the enjoyment of present benefits, their own real good have been daily drawing tighter the bonds. Separation, ignorance, and difficulties of locomotion have hitherto forwarded their efforts. The workman isolated from his fellows and acting alone has been unable to oppose the continually increasing demands of Capital. Now the workman is acquiring a daily greater knowledge of his power and of the injustice of his position. A consequent ill feeling has resulted between the two sections of society, the employers and the employed, and the great present object of political endeavours must be, as you have justly remarked "to reconcile these discordant elements into one harmonious patriotic body.," An object as loudly called for in all hoter countries, as in

England. To effect it, changes must, no doubt, be introduced: but to do so peaceably and by moral force alone is the task to which patriots have set themselves.

The interest of the landed proprietors, especially if held by a numerous proprietary, is and must in every country, be identical with that of the Country. The well-being of all classes is the natural cause of well-being to them. The interest of capitalists is not by any means so identified. Low wages or rather a low remuneration of labour is a source of profit to the capitalists, a source of loss to the landed proprietor, as the ill paid workman cannot consume in such quantities the produce of the Land. — In France the revolutions which have so often devastated and distracted that fine and fertile Country have arisen almost entirely from the overweening influence of Capital *per se*. The same result is being produced from similar causes in the rest of Europe: and it is only by opposing to it the united efforts of all classes that an end can be put to the injustice by showing that the body politic can neither be healthy nor happy whilst one portion of it is sacrificed to the interests of the other. This object can never, however, be attained so long as fictitious lines of demarcation, separating the different grades of society, prevent them from becoming acquainted with each other and learning each others wants; and it is as opening up fresh connection between brothers who have, owing to mutual ignorance of each other, been formed into hostile bodies, that your scheme has met with general approbation.

The workman instead of only, receiving a certain salary must be allowed to participate in the profits derived from his labour, and this need not necessarily interfere with the just remuneration of Capital which would at the time receive such a retribution as would pay the fair market rate of interest and cover the commercial risks of loss as well as pay for supervision ecc.; but as an integral portion of the Capital for production, labour is fairly entitled

to share with the other Capital in the profits derived from production. ■

It may at first sight appear that the views I have enun-
ciated are subversive. On a closer inspection they will
be found to secure society on a firm and certain basis, to
be those which alone, in the public interest, must, ulti-
mately be acknowledged as correct and will succeed. .

It is no doubt that time will be required for their ado-
ption, but as, in the eternal advancement of mankind they
are inevitable every step which renders more easy their
gradual acceptance is a public benefit.

Trusting you will excuse the length to which I have
found myself forced to carry this letter.

Believe me to be yours,

Ever most faithfully

GIUSEPPE DASSI.

G. DASSI. ESQ.

Florence,

Vienna 19th, May, 1873.

Grand Hôtel.

MY DEAR SIR,

You will not be surprised at having received no answer to your two very interesting letters when I tell you that I have been for the first time in my life in what we call "the East.," I have visited Mount Olympus, Broussa, and Constantinople, and have had my conceptions very much enlarged of the beauty of the wonderful world we live in, and my conviction deepened of how little human society has done to make use of all the blessings and advantages which Physical science and social organisation might enable mankind to realise.

With regard to your first letter on the subject of the Colosseum I am glad that you do not hasten to a premature conclusion, I consider the question as still open to you whether you will protect, restore and utilise the ancient building or whether you will erect near it a corresponding structure developing on an equally large scale the materials and methods of modern engineering, As I have already told you my impressions are like yours in favour of the former decision, but as I find many artists and architects are not of my opinion I hope you will continue to elicit the opinions of the most eminent men in your own country before you make a final decision on a controverted point of so much importance; as a matter of expense the creation of the new building of an equal size will be *less* than the restoration of the old one. I shall be quite ready when you think the proper moment has arrived to come to Rome, study the old building and also study any situation you may propose for a new one, and not until I have looked

at the situation from every point of view can I feel myself competent to form a reliable judgment on the matter.

Either this Autumn therefore or Winter I shall be happy to pay you a visit if you think the matter sufficiently matured to be ready for final decision, and shall wait your judgment on the matter.

With regard to your second letter on the political question, I need not say that your entire sympathy and that of your Italian workmen not only gives me great pleasure but affords me that moral support without which it is very difficult to persevere in efforts for the social amelioration of working men against the continued opposition of the political and financial combinations of their enemies and the inevitable apathy of the greater number of themselves, you and I have however this great comfort and encouragement that as our aim is good and the method we follow is right, we are in the end certain of success, I mean to take the liberty of showing the letter you have written to me and which is so clear an epitome of a wise and just system of social political economy to some of the leading members of my council of working men

I remain, my dear Sir,

Sincerely yours,

J. SCOTT RUSSEL.

GIUSEPPE DASSI, ESQ.
Paris.

West Wood Sydenham
22^d January, 1873.

MY DEAR M^r DASSI,

I have learnt with great pleasure that you are continuing your patriotic efforts to open a great Exhibition of all Nations at Rome. I trust it may answer all the high aims you have in making it a school for the education of the Italian workman, in all the skilled crafts of our northern workman, and it will, at the same time, I am sure enlighten our northern workman as to the high qualities in which the Italians excel, of creating works of unparalleled beauty and taste. It will also be a matter of great delight and instruction to us all in a political point of view to witness with what rapidity Italy under her new-born liberty is exhibiting the spectacles of the highest degree of freedom combined with highest degree of order.

In regard to the matter you have assigned to my personal care, the successful completion of my great circular building in Vienna enables me to speak to you with a certainty of facts, on points which could formerly only be regarded as matter of opinion.

The great circular Firon dome is in its lofty interior endowed with all the grandeur of effect which I anticipated and its external effect harmonizes more with the surrounding buildings than I could have hoped. I know also now with perfect accuracy the price at which such a building can be erected and completed even under our unfavorable circumstances of great cost of iron and great haste of construction.

In regard to the general character of your proposed buildings I have no longer any doubt. We must entirely detach and isolate it from those great ancient monuments

of Rome with which it could not possibly harmonise **but** which we moderns may fairly attempt to rival by our **mo-**dern science and our modern methods of construction. We now know that we can enclose under the roof of **a** single dome, a greater area of ground and a greater **vo-**lume of space than was enclosed within the walls of ~~the~~ ancient Coliseum. And the same building which serves tem-
porarily as an exhibition of the wonders of skill of all mo-
dern nations may serve permanently as a Museum of the marvels of ancient Greek and Roman civilisation.

You have only to select for this building some large space in the city where it may be surrounded by a people's garden and serve at once for their recreation and instruction.

I am not ignorant of the many difficulties you must encounter in carrying these great views of yours into practical effect for the benefit of your fellow-countrymen, but let me assure you that we encountered at least equal difficulties before we could initiate the original exhibition of 1851. And you will see on your visit to Vienna in May next how thoroughly Baron Schwartz and his colleagues have overcome the thousand and one difficulties which in the beginning it was said would render his undertaking impossible.

Believe me, my dear Mr Dassi, with warm sympathy, very sincerely yours.

JOHN SCOTT RUSSELL.

DASSI ESQ.

Paris.

Sydenham, London
25th July, 1873.

MY DEAR SIR.

My absence abroad will account to you for not receiving answers to your letters when you had a right to expect them. — But I feel sure that all the accounts you have heard of the success of the great Building at Vienna will have satisfied you that in working there I was also doing the best I could to promote the success of your idea of a greater one for Rome.

The central iron building at Vienna is a modern Coliseum carried on arches and roofed over by a Dome which is the largest in the world, and it has now proved itself, against the contradiction of all its enemies, strong, stable and likely to endure for centuries.

You may now therefore proceed on certain data to erect on a suitable site at Rome a modern Coliseum, able to contain under a roof and without the interruption of a single column a larger space than the ancient Coliseum, and Rome may have the glory of assembling there representative deputations from all the nations of the world to exhibit to each other in friendly rivalry all the productions which their science, skill, industry and art can accomplish, and they can witness in return all the trophies of art and skill which the fervid genius of the Italian People has for centuries been displaying and for which it still retains a special capacity.

Now that the experience of the Vienna exhibition has rendered every thing certain about the building which was formerly reckoned doubtful and even called impossible, I am occupying myself with maturing the dimensions, proportions and design of the larger building you

propose for Rome and I am obtaining estimates of the probable expense and time necessary for its erection and completion.

With reference to cost of construction the longer the time given between the commencement and the completion of the edifice the less will be its cost. — The greater its perfection of execution.

There is one other point to which experience in the Vienna Exhibition enables me to direct your attention, the folly of erecting in great haste, at great cost large temporary buildings to be immediately destroyed when a few months of exhibition are over is so broadly manifest that I trust there will be no repetition of it. I trust that Rome and Italy rendered wiser by the experience of others will so plan and prepare before hand all her buildings required for her exhibition that they shall become permanent public edifices for the education and improvement of the people for the permanent use of the Municipality and for the permanent service of the Nation and its Government.

Thus the value of the building will be lasting and only the occupation temporary.

The next point of great importance is the selection of a site for this building. Of this I can form no judgment until I know the wishes of the Municipality and the intentions of the Government regarding that new city of Rome which is to be the capital of Italy. The point to be kept in view at present is that all new buildings to be erected in Rome should form part of one great design.

Such, my dear sir, are the results to which my consideration of the subject has led me and I hope you will find them useful for your purpose.

Believe me always

Sincerely and cordially yours

J. SCOTT RUSSELL.

(1)

Workmen's International Exhibition.
1870.

President

Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M. P.

Vice-President

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. K. E.
Right Hon. The Lord Mayor, M. P.
&c. &c. &c.

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Hon. Secretaries

Hon. Auberon Herbert. | J. W. Probyn, Esq. | Mr Thos. Paterson.

Working Men's Club and Institute Union.
150, Strand, London, W. C.
9, June, 1870.

DEAR SIR,

We beg to offer you our hearty thanks for your kind letters, also for the exercise of your interest with General Garibaldi.

With reference to your question as to the date of your visit we are anxious to have your presence at our opening ceremony which will take place about the 15th of July the exact date we will send you when it is fixed.

We therefore venture to suggest that the best time will be shortly before that day so that you may be able to assist on that occasion and also in the important business of the adjudication which will follow.

We need hardly express the feelings of pleasure and encouragement with which the Council would welcome the addition of the world honoured name of the General to our list of Vice-presidents. There is one circumstance however which would make our opening day, such a brilliant success as to constitute it ever after a historical event and that is the presence of the General.

Your efforts to assist us have hitherto been so successful that we venture to ask whether it would be possible for you to induce your Illustrious Countryman to be present at the opening.

We welcome with pleasure the representation of the Commission but we especially wish to have with them representations of the Italian people and could the General be prevailed upon to make the journey we are confident that his presence would do much to unite in one bond of Brotherhood the English and Italian peoples who we trust are now destined to run a glorious race of freedom and prosperity.

We enclose a letter of invitation, should you think it well to transmit it to the General and we await your reply.

We have the honor, To be

Dear Sir
Yours truly

AUBERON HERBERT.
THOS PATERSON.
J. W. PROBYN.
Hon. Secs.

J. DASSI, Esq.
Member of the Committee
& & &

Workmen's International Exhibition.
1870.

President

Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M. P.
&c. &c. &c.

Working men's Club and Institute Union.
150, Strand, London, W. C.

June, 9, 1870.

MOST ILLUSTRIOUS GENERAL,

With the most profound respect, we beg in the name of the Council of the Workmen's International Exhibition, 1870 to solicit the honor of your presence at the opening of the Exhibition on the 15th of July next. The noble Italian Nation has so warmly seconded our attempts to make this the first work men's International Exhibition, a triumphant success, and will we believe take one of the principal places, if not *the principal place* in the Exhibition, that it is thought your presence at its opening will be the clearest evidence of the fraternal feeling between our workmen, and the artisans of your country. We expect the presence of our distinguished President and our own loved sovereign will show her approval by her presence. And next to our Queen, and her chief minister we shall consider you, General, as our most loved and distinguished Guest, if you can accept our invitation.

Our honoured and excellent friend, Mr. Dassi, will present to you, this communication, and will thus add to the many, many, obligations for which we are indebted to him.

We have the honor, to be,

Illustrious and Hon. General,

Your Obed.^t Servants.

AUBERON HERBERT.

THOS PATERSON.

J. W. PROBYN.

Hon. Secs.

To his Excellency
General G. GARIBALDI.

At the International Marine Exhibition of Naples 1871 I was member of the jury.

(2)

CABINET OF THE TWO SICILIES.

Caserta, 17, of October, 1860.

I am very happy to attest, with the present, my complete satisfaction and commendation to my friend Joseph Dassi for the services rendered by him in the office of the Secretary General, as Director and Chargé of foreign affairs and Public Work. I am also pleased to render him, upon this occasion, my homage for his activity, intelligence, patriotism, and disinterestedness. —

(L. S.) G. GARIBALDI

To JOSEPH DASSI.
&c. &c. &c.

Naples.

(see the official journal of Naples, 27th, October, 1860).

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